



**Searcy A & P Commission  
Tuesday, July 28, 2026, 9:00 AM  
Minutes**

In the absence of Chairman Howel, Commissioner Centola called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

Present were Commissioners Hale, House, Jones, Orozco, and Patel.

Centola asked if everyone reviewed the minutes.

Hale motioned to approve the request; Patel seconded. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Tim Blansett presented the Financial Report. For May, the Total Fund Balance as of 5/31/26 was \$2,810,336.19. The Restricted Fund Balance is \$1,144,000.00 (accounting for Bond Repayment) and the Unrestricted Fund Balance is \$1,666,336.19. Total Liabilities and Net Assets is \$2,810,336.19. Collections for the month of April were for Lodging \$38,715.71 Prepared Foods \$114,711.16. Interest & Penalties on late payments \$606.25. Early Payment Discounts (\$2,301.81). Expenditures were: Professional Services \$3,035.00. Website and Social Media Expense \$9,870.50. Bank Fees \$140.40, Merchant Fees \$93.00, Bond Payment to the City \$82,356.21, White County Fairboard -2025 \$12,000.00, Searcy Parks and Rec. (Tournaments) \$9,000.00, Searcy School District \$25,000.00, Searcy Holiday of Lights \$35,000, Arkansas State Golf Association \$5,000.00. Interest Income on Deposits \$2,580.62. Net Income for May \$(27,183.18).

For June, the Total Fund Balance as of 6/30/26 was \$2,802,510.78. The Restricted Fund Balance is \$1,107,000.00 (accounting for Bond Repayment) and the Unrestricted Fund Balance is \$1,695,510.78. Total Liabilities and Net Assets is \$2,802,510.78 Collections for the month of May were for Lodging \$40,877.91 Prepared Foods \$116,293.12. Interest & Penalties on late payments \$128.08. Early Payment Discounts (\$2,616.19). Expenditures were: Legal Services \$600.00, Administrative Services \$45,186.95, Professional Services \$2,465.00. Social Media Content & Advertising \$1,800.00 Website and Social Media Expense \$7,070.50. Bank Fees \$146.25, Merchant Fees \$89.00, Bond Payment to the City \$82,356.21, 4th of July 2026 \$4,000, Searcy Parks and Rec. (Tournaments) \$3,000.00, Special Olympics Arkansas \$30,000.00 Interest Income on Deposits \$2,502.37. Net Income for June \$(19,528.62).

Centola presented the proposal from Food and Travel magazine. It was suggested by Pugh that we pursue this opportunity next year, when we have more things available to people to plan trips. Patel suggested that we see if they have a smaller option for the upcoming issues.

Tod Traughber gave the recap for the 2026 Robotics tournament. He said that due to having to move locations this year, there were only 25 teams as opposed to 30. Two of the teams were from Mexico. He thanked the Commission for their continued support of the event. Patel said that the hotels noticed the visitors and Jones said this partnership has been very good for both organizations. Jones applauded Traughber for building a quality event while reducing the amount request from the A&P Commission.

Lee Wimberley presented the request. He said that he has 16 teams, a combination of boys and girls, contracted to participate in the event. He also has commitments from various sponsors for the event. His plan is to make this a yearly event. He already has a five-year commitment from Gym Masters. The Commission is to vote on the request next month.

Corey Kurck presented the request on behalf of the Arkansas Cowboys Association. He said that there would be 155 competitors at the event. The funding is needed for the rental of the Fairgrounds and other equipment rental. Jones asked if this would be their premier event. Mr Kurck said it would be one of the largest. The Commission will vote on this request next month.

Centola asked if there were any comments before adjournment. Michele Pugh, who handles the Commission's marketing plan, said that she is already putting together next year's marketing plan with expectations of an increase with all the new projects completed in the coming year. She asked if anyone on the commission has any ideas they would like to share. She would like to hear them for her presentation.

The Planning and Development Director for the City of Searcy, Richard Stafford said that the completion of a 3.5-mile trail loop at Little Red River Park will be opening sometime in August. It is with funds from the A&P Commission that the bond for this project is being paid. He invited the Commission to come out and visit to see the progress that was being made.

With no one else wishing to speak, Commission Centola adjourned the meeting at 9:57am.

---

Tommy Centola, Secretary